

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

CLAIMS

Claim 1. (currently amended): A system for correcting problems in a vehicle maintenance system comprising:

a vehicle maintenance system containing at least one local computer, said local computer in communication via a network with at least one remote computer, said remote computer transmitting at least one diagnostic to said local computer, said local computer returning diagnostic data to said remote computer from running said diagnostic;

said remote computer containing a decision algorithm that uses said diagnostic data to determine a correction for said problem, said remote computer returning said correction for said problem to said local computer[+];

said decision algorithm chosen from the group
consisting of a decision tree, a rule-based system, and
inference engine.

Claim 2. (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising a database at said remote computer, said database containing histories of maintenance system problems.

Claim 3. (original): The system of claim 2 wherein said database contains service histories for a plurality of maintenance systems.

Claim 4. (original): The system of claim 2 wherein said database contains component information for a plurality of maintenance systems.

Claim 5. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said vehicle maintenance system is a wheel alignment system.

Claim 6. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said vehicle maintenance system is an engine analyzer.

Claim 7. (original): The system of claim 1 further including maintenance constraints that result in different fixes for different brands of equipment.

Claim 8. (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising a video camera in communication with said local computer.

Claim 9. (original): The system of claim 8 further comprising live two-way audio/video conferencing between said local computer and said remote computer.

Claim 10. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said decision algorithm is a decision tree.

Claim 11. (original): The system of claim 1 wherein said decision algorithm is inference based.

Claim 12. (currently amended): A system for correcting problems in a wheel alignment system comprising:

a wheel alignment system containing at least one local computer, said local computer in communication via a

network with at least one remote computer, said remote computer transmitting at least one diagnostic to said local computer, said local computer returning diagnostic data to said remote computer from running said diagnostic;

said remote computer containing a decision [~~algorithm~~] tree that uses said diagnostic data to determine a suggested correction for said problem, said remote computer returning said suggested correction for said problem to said local computer.

Claim 13. (original): The system of claim 12 further comprising a database at said remote computer, said database containing histories of alignment system problems.

Claim 14. (original): The system of claim 13 wherein said database contains service histories for a plurality of alignment systems.

Claim 15. (original): The system of claim 13 wherein said database contains component information for a plurality of alignment systems.

Claim 16. (original): The system of claim 12 further including maintenance constraints that result in different fixes for different brands of equipment.

Claim 17. (original): The system of claim 12 further comprising a video camera in communication with said local computer, said video camera allowing live conferencing with said remote computer.

Claim 18. (currently amended): A method for performing diagnostics on a vehicle maintenance system in the field from a remote location, the method comprising the steps of:

connecting a local computer that is in communication with a maintenance system to a remote computer over a network;

downloading diagnostics over said network to said local computer, said local computer running said diagnostics on said maintenance system;

receiving diagnostic data at said remote computer from
at least one of said diagnostics, said remote computer;
analyzing said diagnostic data using a decision tree
and a database of previous problems with similar
systems;

(a.) transmitting at least one additional diagnostic
from said remote computer to said local computer;

(b.) running said additional diagnostic on said
maintenance system;

(c.) receiving second diagnostic data at said remote
computer from said additional diagnostic, said remote
computer analyzing said second diagnostic data using a
decision tree and a database of previous problems with
similar systems;

(d.) repeating steps a. to d. N times where N is an
integer;

transmitting a suggested fix from said remote computer
to said local computer.

Claim 19. (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said maintenance system is a wheel alignment system.

Claim 20. (original): The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of storing component information for said maintenance system in said database.

Claim 21. (original): The method of claim 18 further comprising using a video camera at said local computer to establish conferencing with said remote computer.

Claim 22. (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said conferencing is 2-way audio/video.

Claim 23. (original): The method of claim 18 wherein the step of analyzing further comprises using a decision tree.

Claim 24. (original): The method of claim 18 wherein the step of analyzing further comprises using a inference based system.